Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in this application:

Listing of Claims

1-60 (Canceled)

61. (Currently amended) A method of ~~providing~~ retrieving selective biological samples from a sample archive; said method comprising:

providing an automated sample repository comprising a plurality of samples derived from biological sources, said samples stored on DNA-immobilizing paper at known location within said repository;

providing an information database comprising medical history, clinical or phenotypic information associated with said biological sources corresponding to said plurality of samples;

determining a request from a first requestor for a sample portion selected from said plurality of samples based upon a query of said information database, in said repository;

subsequent to said query and said request removing for the benefit of said first requestor ~~at least~~ a portion of said sample on DNA-Immobilizing paper based upon said request, and maintaining the remainder of said sample from the selected biological source on DNA-immobilizing paper in said repository for later use by a second requestor.

62 . (Currently amended) The method of Claim 61 wherein said query and request is received by a Service Provider from a remote first requestor located remotely from said repository.

63. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 61 further comprising supplying said samples with unique identifiers.

64. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 61 wherein said samples in said repository are associated with optically readable identifiers.

65. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 61 further comprising organizing a plurality of said removed ~~at least~~ sample portions into an ordered assembly, at the request of said first requestor.

66. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 62 wherein a catalog of said samples and said associated database comprises information from said plurality of repositories at a plurality of locations and is made available to said remote requestor via a computer network.

67. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 66 wherein said Service Provider accesses a plurality of sample repositories in a corresponding plurality of locations at the request of said first requestor obtains sample portions from a plurality of archives.

68. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 67 wherein said information database comprises an integrated database comprising individual databases corresponding to said plurality of repositories, said integrated database accessible to said Service Provider and to said remote requestor.

69. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 62 wherein said request is received via computer network communication means.

70. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 61 wherein said removal comprises mechanical means to separate said at least portion from other sample portions in said repository having like sample composition.

71. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 61 further comprising optically detecting the location for said removal of said at least sample portion.

72. (Currently amended) A method comprising:

providing an automated repository capable of storing a plurality of samples derived from biological sources on DNA-immobilizing paper at known locations, said samples being stored on DNA-immobilizing paper in separable portion format, each portion having been derived from the same biological source and having substantially identical composition and stored in close proximity in said repository;

identifying a sample from information associated with said sample in an information database comprising medical, clinical or phenotype information,

responsive to said identifying, ascertaining a location of said identified sample in said repository;

responsive to said ascertaining, removing ~~at least~~ a separable portion of said sample, and maintaining a remaining portion of the sample on DNA-immobilizing paper in the repository for later identification and use.

73. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 72 wherein said sample comprises a polynucleotide.

74. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 72 wherein said sample comprises a protein.

75. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 73 wherein said removed at least portions of said sample are at least partially amplified prior to further analysis.

76. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 75 wherein said analysis comprises contacting said sample portion with other matter and detecting a specific binding event resulting from said contacting.

77. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 72 further comprising repeating said identifying, ascertaining, and removing steps for a plurality of samples in said repository and forming an ordered assembly of said sample portions for analysis.

78. (Currently amended) A method of obtaining a repository sample for analysis; said method comprising:

receiving a request for a sample, which request was determined from accessing an information database comprising medical history, clinical or phenotypic information corresponding to the source of said sample;

identifying a sample stored on DNA-immobilizing paper in an automated repository;

responsive to said receiving and said identifying, locating said sample in said repository;

detecting a location to remove at least a portion of said sample from other portions of said sample located proximate thereto;

removing ~~at least~~ a portion of said sample on DNA-immobilizing paper and maintaining a remaining portion of said sample on DNA-immobilizing paper in said repository for later use.

79. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 78 wherein said detecting is performed with optical image recognition means.

80. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 78 wherein said sample is identified among a collection of samples located in a plurality of separately located repository installations.